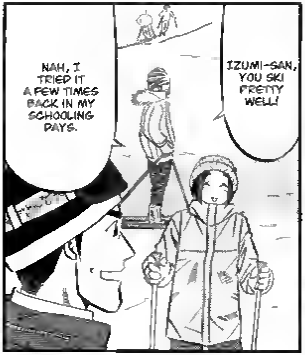
Xui Tan
2hungryazns
Translator:
Schizo
Editor:
Night
http://webchat.mibbit.com/?channels=2hungryazns


IZUMI-SAN, YOU SKI PRETTY WELL!
NAH, I TRIED IT A FEW TIMES BACK IN MY SCHOOLING DAYS.

シャアーッ

AREN'T YOU GETTING HUNGRY?
LET'S HEAD BACK TO THE VACATION CENTER FOR LUNCH.

EVEN IF THEY'RE CHEAP,
I WONDER WHO ON EARTH EATS AT A PLACE LIKE THAT?

NO, NO, THAT WON'T DO
THE NOODLES FROM THOSE STALLS ARE COLD, OILY AND DRY.

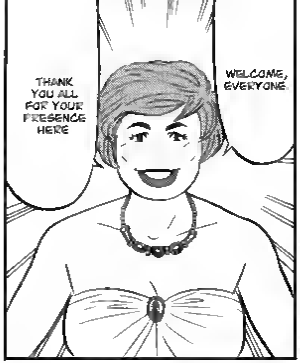
THERE ARE PLENTY OF SMALL FOOD STALLS THERE,
WE CAN EAT THERE TOO

File.013

Have a Bite of a Gem!

the Case Files of the Gourmand Detective

Poetry!
OH, GREAT SNOW...
FLOAT DOWN LIKE SUGAR, AND MAKE ME RICH!
SENSEI?
SENSEI, THE ONE WHO INVITED US HERE, MRS SAEGUSA, HAS ASKED US TO GO OVER.
FALL LIKE SALT AND MAKE ME RICH!
OH, GREAT SNOW...
THE MADAM HAS ASKED US TO GO OVER!
STOP SPOUTING NONSENSE!
IDIOT!
OH, GREAT SNOW, LIKE GRAINS OF WHEAT...


THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR PRESENCE HERE
WELCOME, EVERYONE.

YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT BEING ARTISTIC IS!
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY ARTISTIC SENSIBILITIES.

SOME ARE ANNUAL GUESTS, WHILE OTHERS ARE HERE FOR THE FIRST TIME THIS YEAR
EVERY YEAR, I INVITE SOME CLOSE FRIENDS HERE FOR THE SKI SEASON

KANO MITSUKO
MY SON'S TUTOR WHO STARTED THIS YEAR,

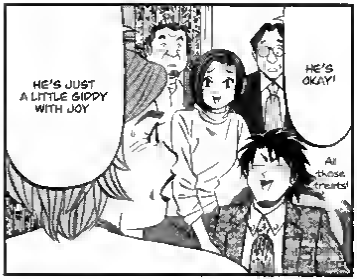
EVERYONE HERE IS A DEAR FRIEND
PLEASE TREAT THIS PLACE AS YOUR OWN HOME AND ENJOY YOURSELF

THE FAMOUS DETECTIVE TAKANO SEIYA AND HIS SECRETARY IZUMI KYOKO.
THE ONES WHO ELEGANTLY SOLVED THE CHEF'S MURDER AT DINNER-TIME,

I'M NOZAWA.
WE'RE GUESTS HERE EVERY YEAR, THE YAMADAS.
I'M UTSU-NOMIYA.
I'M HOUDO IT'S GREAT TO HAVE TWO BEAUTIES HERE THIS YEAR!
THERE'S A DRAWING ROOM, A BAR AND A GAMES ROOM
FEEL FREE TO USE THEM AS YOU WISH
MAY I ASK-
MADAM, I MUST KNOW,
IS IT TRUE THAT YOU BROUGHT YOUR PERSONAL CHEF HERE TO THE VILLA?
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO FANTASTIC MEALS AGAIN THIS TIME!
YES, OF COURSE
BUT THIS YEAR IT WON'T BE MY CHEF, BUT MYSELF COOKING PERSONALLY FOR ALL OF YOU
OH, THAT'S WONDERFUL!
WE'LL GET TO TRY MRS SAEGUSA'S COOKING!
I'M EMBARRASSED TO SAY SO, BUT I COOK PRETTY WELL!
OH?

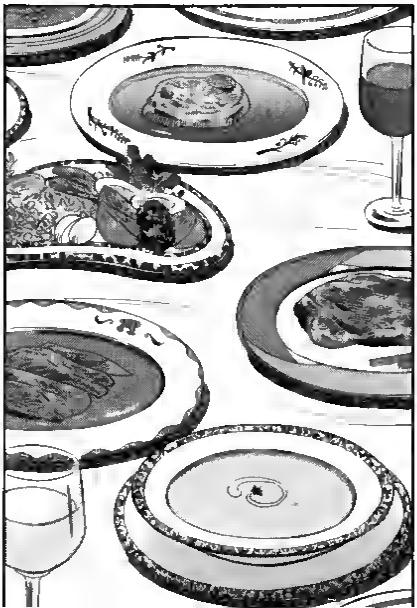
YOU WON'T THINK OF EATING ANYTHING ELSE AFTER YOU'VE TRIED IT ONCE!
THE MEAT FROM THE OOTAKI FARM MELTS IN YOUR MOUTH!
THEY PROVIDE US WITH FRESH MEAT AND PRODUCE EVERYDAY
THERE'S A FARM NEARBY THAT WE'RE ON GOOD TERMS WITH
HOME-MADE JAM
BREAD BAKED FRESH DAILY,
BUTTER MADE FROM FRESH MILK,
VEGETABLES FROM THE HIGHLANDS,
WITH EXTRA-NUTRITIOUS EGGS
AND THE FREE-RANGE CHICKENS ARE MEATY AND LEAN,
THAT'S AWESOME!
AH!
EVERYONE WILL GET TO ENJOY ALL THESE DELICIOUS TREATS!
FROM MORNING TO NIGHT,
All those treats!

A- ARE YOU ALRIGHT, TAKANO-SAN?
I'm fine!


HE'S JUST A LITTLE GIDDY WITH JOY
HE'S OKAY!
All those treats!

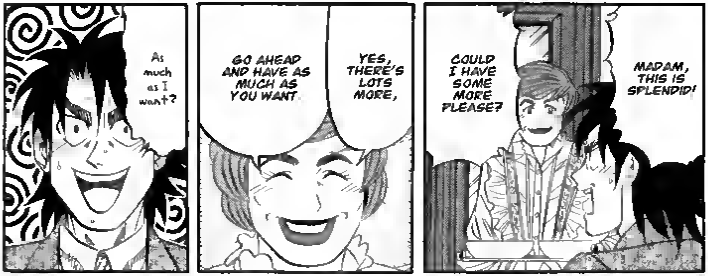
LET ME GO AND PREPARE DINNER FOR US NOW
IN THAT CASE, I'M HAPPY TOO

WHAT AN APPETIZING MEAL!
WOW! WHAT A SPREAD!



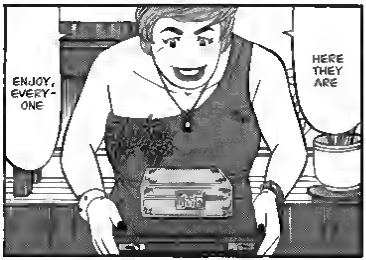
WHAT A SPREAD!
ALL SORTS OF COLD GAME!
CREAMY SOUP!
THICK CHARCOAL-GRILLED STEAKS!
BITE!
CHEW!
MUNCH!
CRUNCH!
SIP!
SLURP!
EVERYTHING'S BEEN CLEARED, HE'S TRULY A HUMAN INCINERATOR!
THAT'S AMAZING!

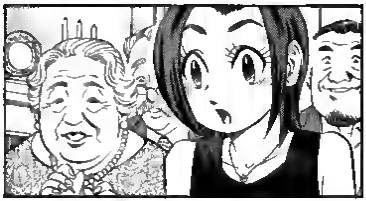
ABSOLUTELY DELICIOUS!
HAHA!
じゅわわわわ
じゅわわわわ

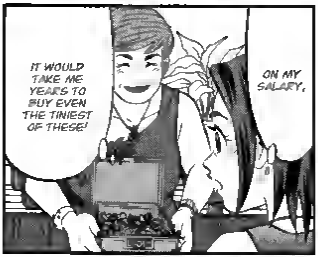

As much as I want?
GO AHEAD AND HAVE AS MUCH AS YOU WANT
YES, THERE'S LOTS MORE,
COULD I HAVE SOME MORE PLEASE?
MADAM, THIS IS SPLENDID!

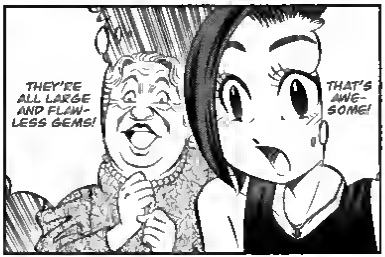
I'M SO SATISFIED!
HAHA, WHAT A MEAL!
ダーバーバーバー
Afraid of him, keeping her distance.
JUST LET ME PAINT!
I'm painting!

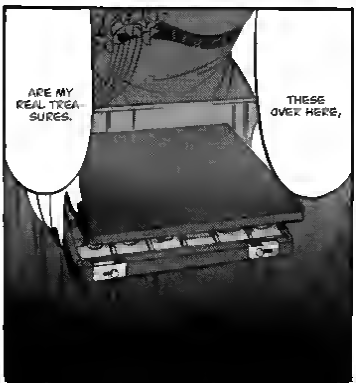
YES, THAT WOULD REALLY BE AN EYE-OPENER!
THAT'S RIGHT, LET US HAVE A LOOK AT YOUR JEWELLERY COLLECTION!
YES PLEASE!
HOW ABOUT DESSERT?
Why don't you just live here forever?
A LIFE WITH WEALTH MAKES ONE ENVIOUS
Do as you wish then.
That's actually a good idea!
THEY AREN'T WORTHY FOR ANYONE TO SEE
AH, THOSE TRINKETS?
AH!
JEWEL-LERY COL-LECTION?
Commas dance in her expression
I'LL GO AND TAKE THEM OUT, JUST GIVE ME A SECOND
BUT SINCE YOU'VE ASKED SO NICELY,

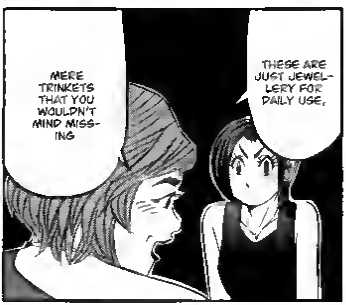

ENJOY, EVERY-ONE
HERE THEY ARE

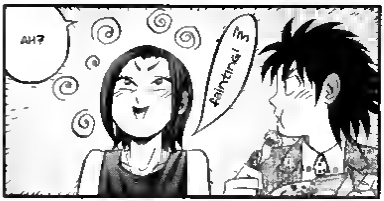


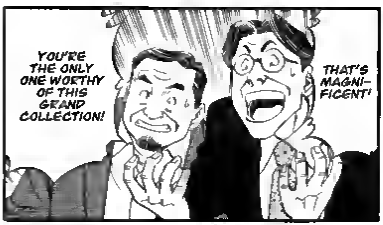

IT WOULD TAKE ME YEARS TO BUY EVEN THE TINIEST OF THESE!
ON MY SALARY,


THEY'RE ALL LARGE AND FLAW-LESS GEMS!
THAT'S AWE-SOME!


ARE MY REAL TREA-SURES.
THESE OVER HERE,

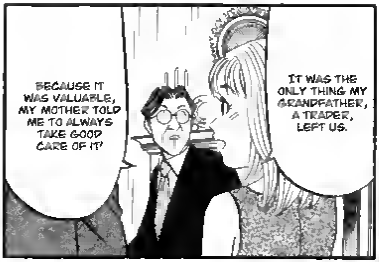

MERE TRINKETS THAT YOU WOULDN'T MIND MISS-ING
THESE ARE JUST JEWEL-LERY FOR DAILY USE,

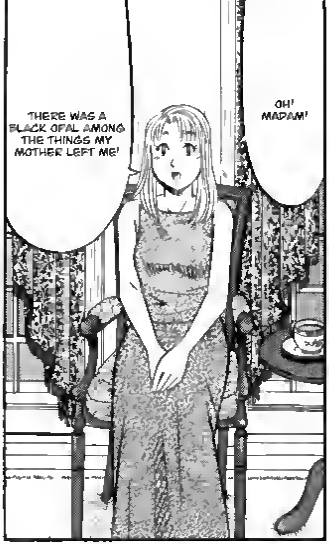

AH?
DIAMONDS!


YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WORTHY OF THIS GRAND COLLECTION!
THAT'S MAGNI-FICENT!

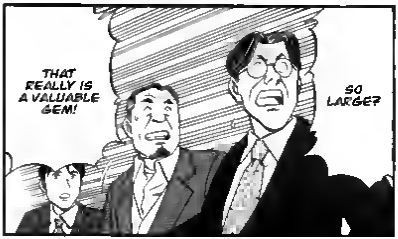
AND I KEEP THE REALLY PRECIOUS ONES IN MY WALL SAFE
THOSE FOR DAILY USE ARE OKAY,
RATHER THAN BY YOUR SIDE?
BUT SHOULDN'T SOMETHING SO PRECIOUS BE KEPT IN A BANK'S DEPOSIT BOX,
RIGHT THE SAFE
YOU MEAN THE SAFE
I'LL GUARD YOUR REFRIGERATOR WITH MY LIFE!
LEAVE IT TO ME!
AND TAKANO-SAN WHO HAS HELPED ME SO OFTEN, WILL KEEP GUARD TOO
I'VE ALREADY HIRED A SECURITY COMPANY TO HANDLE THE SECURITY,
A GEM THAT COULD GO HERE?
ISN'T THERE
ABOUT THAT
YES,
THERE'S AN EMPTY SPACE HERE
HOWEVER,

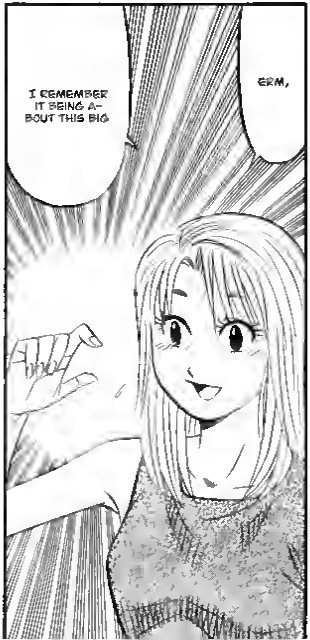
I'VE BEEN CEASELESSLY SEARCHING FOR A TYPE OF GEM,
AND WHEN I FIND IT, MY COLLECTION WILL BE COMPLETE
CEASE-LESSLY SEARCH-ING?
WHAT GEM IS THAT?
A BLACK OPAL
BLACK OPALS HAVE A DARKER HUE THAN THE USUAL WHITE OF OPALS.
AT DIFFERENT ANGLES, THEY DIFFRACT THE WHOLE SPECTRUM OF LIGHT, IN INDESCRIBABLE BEAUTY
NOW I HAVE QUITE A FEW WHITE OPALS FOR REGULAR USE,
BUT IN RECENT YEARS, LARGE BLACK OPALS HAVE BEEN HARD TO FIND
THE DIFFERENCE IN VALUE BE-TWEEN BLACK AND WHITE OPALS IS HUGE,
SO IF I COULD FIND A BLACK OPAL, I'D GET IT, NO MATTER WHAT THE PRICE!

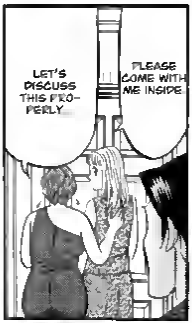

BECAUSE IT WAS VALUABLE, MY MOTHER TOLD ME TO ALWAYS TAKE GOOD CARE OF IT!
IT WAS THE ONLY THING MY GRANDFATHER, A TRADER, LEFT US.

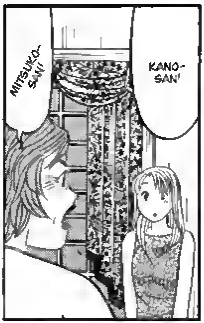

THERE WAS A BLACK OPAL AMONG THE THINGS MY MOTHER LEFT ME!
OH! MADAM!

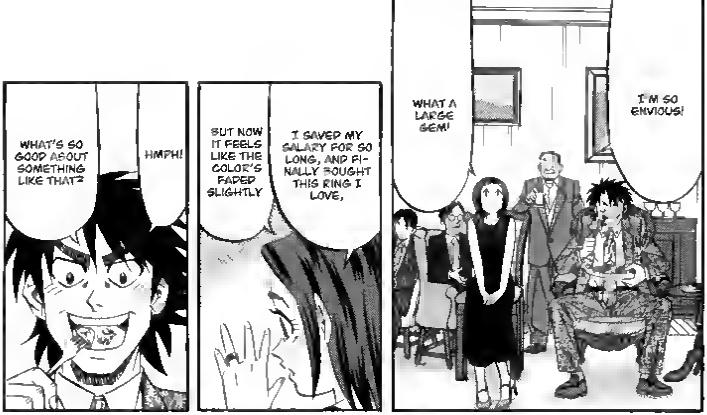
HOW LARGE IS THAT GEM?
YOU? KANO-SAN,


THAT REALLY IS A VALUABLE GEM!
SO LARGE?


I REMEMBER IT BEING A- BOUT THIS BIG
ERM,

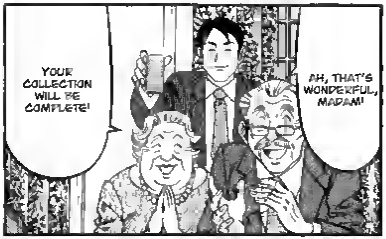

LET'S DISCUSS THIS PRO- PERLY
PLEASE COME WITH ME INSIDE

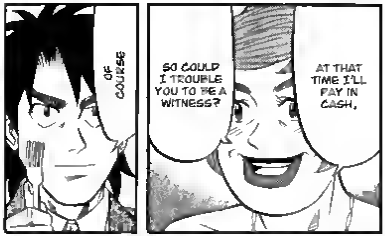

MITSUKO- SAN!
KANO- SAN!


I'M SO ENVIOUS!
WHAT A LARGE GEM!
I SAVED MY SALARY FOR SO LONG, AND FINALLY BOUGHT THIS RING I LOVE,
BUT NOW IT FEELS LIKE THE COLOR'S FADED SLIGHTLY
HMPH!
WHAT'S SO GOOD ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

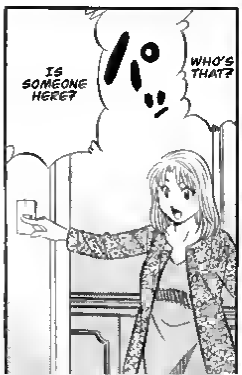
YOU CAN'T EAT IT ANYWAY
PLEASE DON'T JUDGE THINGS WITH YOUR MISGUIDED VALUE SYSTEM!

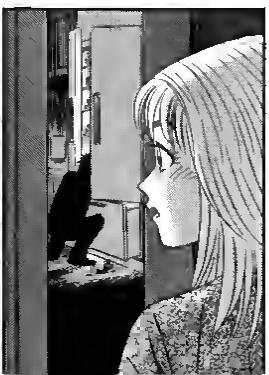
TAKANO-SAN!
SHE PROMISED TO SELL IT TO ME!
AT FIRST SHE SAID IT WAS HER LATE MOTHER'S, AND REFUSED
BUT WHEN I OFFERED MY BEST PRICE, SHE FINALLY WAS PERSUADED
SHE'S MADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR IT TO BE BROUGHT OVER TOMORROW MORNING.
AH, IT'S A DREAM COME TRUE.

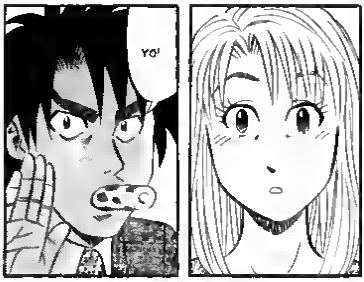

AH, THAT'S WONDERFUL, MADAM!
YOUR COLLECTION WILL BE COMPLETE!


AT THAT TIME I'LL PAY IN CASH.
SO COULD I TROUBLE YOU TO BE A WITNESS?
OF COURSE

!
OPEN!


WHO'S THAT?
IS SOMEONE HERE?




YO!

AS YOU CAN SEE, I'M GETTING FOOD FROM THE FRIDGE
WHAT ARE YOU DOING AT THIS HOUR?

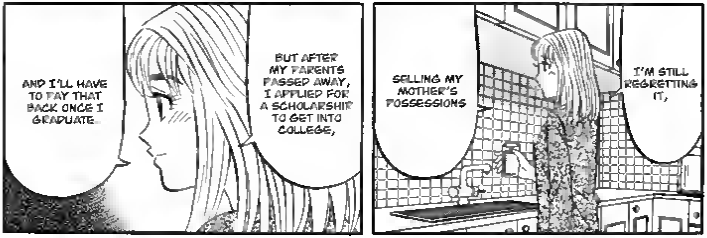
WELL, I DO THIS ALL THE TIME AT MY HOME
MADAM TOLD US TO MAKE OURSELVES AT HOME ~

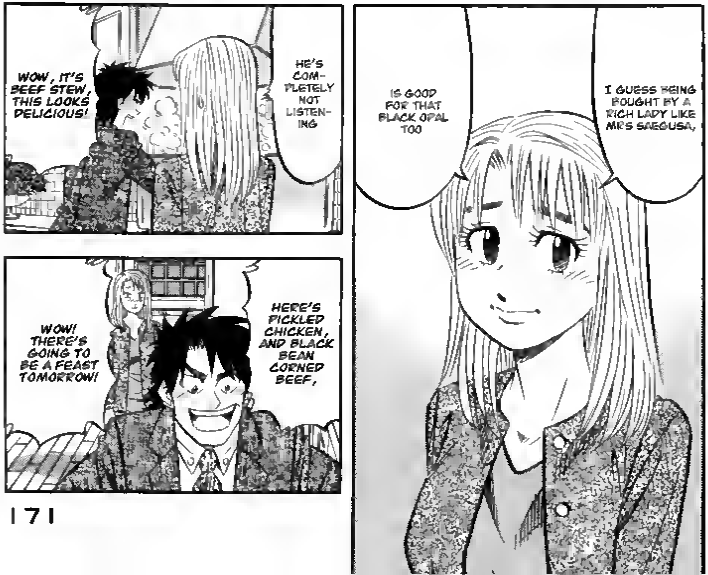
YOU HAD THREE HELPINGS AT DINNER, AND FORTY CAKES, AND YOU'RE STILL HUNGRY?
I WAS READY TO SLEEP WHEN I GOT HUNGRY

I COULDN'T SLEEP

WHAT ARE YOU DOING SO LATE?
AND YOU,

I JUST WANTED SOME WATER!
YOU'RE HERE FOR FOOD TOO!
同志!!
THERE'S SO MUCH FOOD! AND SOME OF IT IS FOR TOMORROW!
PLEASE DON'T TREAT EVERYONE LIKE YOURSELF


I'M STILL REGRETTING IT,
SELLING MY MOTHER'S POSSESSIONS
BUT AFTER MY PARENTS PASSED AWAY, I APPLIED FOR A SCHOLARSHIP TO GET INTO COLLEGE,
AND I'LL HAVE TO PAY THAT BACK ONCE I GRADUATE.


I GUESS BEING BOUGHT BY A RICH LADY LIKE MR'S SAEGUSA,
IS GOOD FOR THAT BLACK OPAL TOO
HE'S COMPLETELY NOT LISTENING
WOW, IT'S BEEF STEW. THIS LOOKS DELICIOUS!
HERE'S PICKLED CHICKEN, AND BLACK BEAN CORNED BEEF,
WOW! THERE'S GOING TO BE A FEAST TOMORROW!

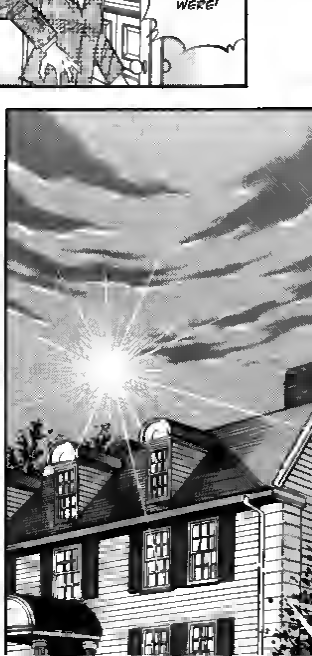
I KNOW THAT
YOU CAN'T EAT IT NOW!

IT SMELLS SO SWEET!
WHOA! THIS STRAWBERRY JAM HAS THE COLOR OF A RED JEWEL!

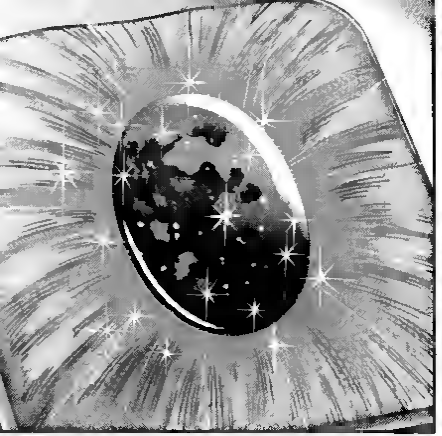
SO IT NEEDS TO BE MADE THE NIGHT BEFORE!
AH? IS THIS HOMEMADE JAM?

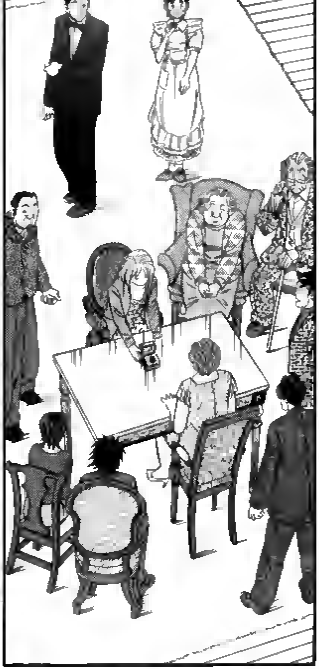
HE'S A FAMOUS DETECTIVE?
That hurts!
Get back to your room!
I WAS WONDERING WHY YOU WEREN'T IN YOUR ROOM SO THIS IS WHERE YOU WERE!

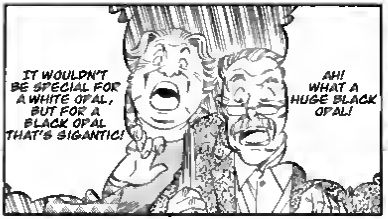
WITH FRESHLY-BAKED BREAD AND HOMEMADE JAM, IT'S A GREAT BREAKFAST!
AH, THIS BUTTER IS LOVELY AND FRESH

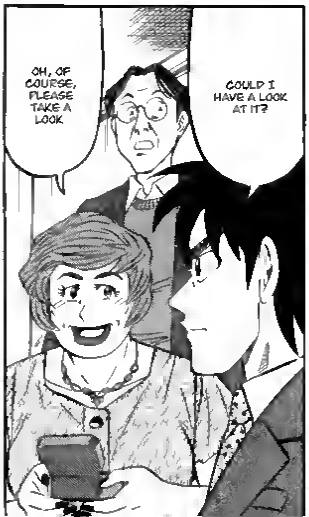


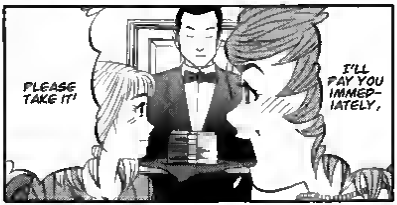
THE BLACK CAT IS HERE!
NYAAN!

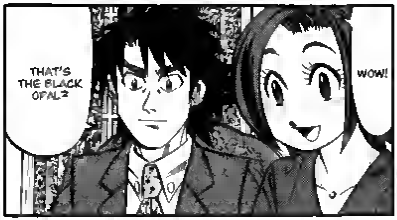





IT WOULDN'T BE SPECIAL FOR A WHITE OPAL, BUT FOR A BLACK OPAL THAT'S GIGANTIC!
AH! WHAT A HUGE BLACK OPAL!


OH, OF COURSE, PLEASE TAKE A LOOK
COULD I HAVE A LOOK AT IT?


PLEASE TAKE IT!
I'LL PAY YOU IMMEDIATELY.


THAT'S THE BLACK OPAL?
WOW!!

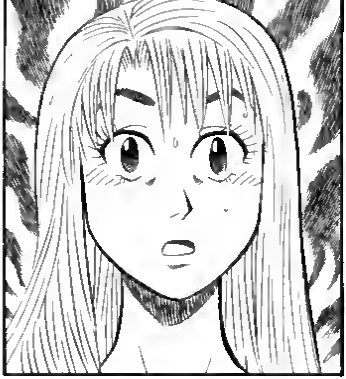
HMM
SOMETHING LIKE THIS IS VALUABLE?
TAKANO-SAN, PLEASE BE CAREFUL
THAT'S MY TREASURE...
IT CAN'T BE EATEN...
HUH?
COOKED, ROASTED,
IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE IT CAN BE EATEN!
AH?
AHH!
パクッ

S-SENSEI!
TAKANO-SAN!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
YOU'LL RUIN THAT EXPENSIVE GEM!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
SENSEI, WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO?
OF COURSE YOU CAN'T EAT A GEM, NO MATTER WHETHER IT'S COOKED OR ROASTED!
I WASN'T TALKING ABOUT A GEM,
BUT THAT LADY
WHAT?

WHAT DID YOU SAY?
WH-WHAT?

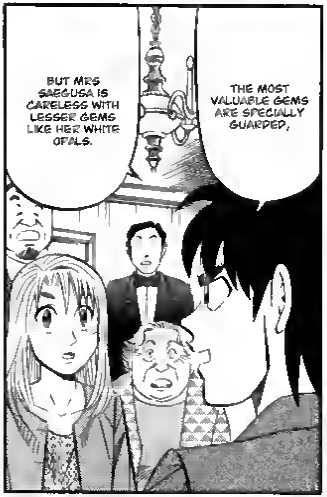
THAT BLACK OPAL,
IS A FAKE!

ガチ



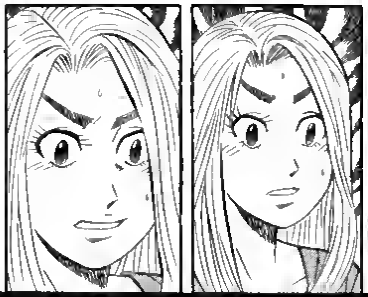
THE INSIDE IS A WHITE OPAL! IT'S A FAKE!
ONLY THE OUTSIDE IS BLACK!

A COUNTERFEITING PROCESS THAT STARTED IN THE 1950s.
THIS IS CALLED "SUGARING".


BUT MRS SAEGUSA IS CARELESS WITH LESSER GEMS LIKE HER WHITE OPALS.
THE MOST VALUABLE GEMS ARE SPECIALLY GUARDED,

AS THE SUGAR CARAMELIZES, IT ADHERES TO THE WHITE OPAL'S SURFACE, AND BECOMES BLACK
A WHITE OPAL IS SLOWLY SOAKED IN A BOILING SUGAR SOLUTION

SHE PUT IT INSIDE?
THAT POT OF JAM IN THE KITCHEN!



THEN YOU SUGARED IT IN THE JAM THAT WAS COOKING IN THE KITCHEN. TURNING IT INTO A BLACK OPAL!
FIRST YOU STOLE A WHITE OPAL.

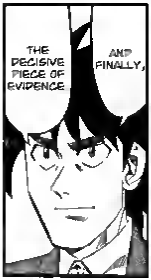
FROM THE WHITE OPAL,
WHICH WAS THE JAM BEING PREPARED FOR THE NEXT DAY.
TO THE BOILING SUGAR SOLUTION.

WAS THAT SHE COMMITTED FRAUD WITH THINGS FOUND HERE
THE MOST CLEVER THING ABOUT THIS,

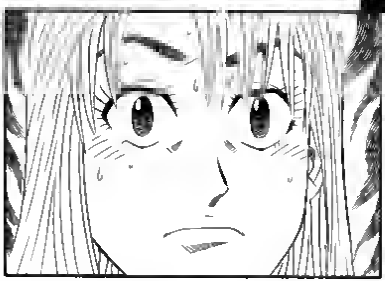
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT WAS FAKE! I'M A VICTIM TOO!
WHAT PROOF DO YOU HAVE?
AND THAT WAS IT
SHE GOT A CONFEDERATE TO DELIVER AN EMPTY JEWEL BOX,
AND INSTANTLY THOUGHT OF THIS SCHEME
THE CRIMINAL HEARD YESTERDAY HOW MRS SAEGUSA WAS LOOKING FOR A BLACK OPAL,
WAS SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE JAM AT BREAKFAST?
THE JAM?
IS THE STRAWBERRY JAM FROM THIS MORNING
THE PROOF
SO MADAM COOKED IT FOR TWO HOURS AND LEFT IT IN THE POT TO COOL.
FOR JAM TO BE BRIGHTLY COLORED, IT CAN'T BE OVERCOOKED.
FOR HOME-MADE JAM, ITS COLOR WAS TOO DULL.
THE STRAW-BERRY JAM AT BREAK-FAST TODAY-
NORMALLY THE JAM COMES OUT A FRESH RUBY RED.
YES, YES, THAT'S RIGHT,

BESIDES ME, YOU WERE THE ONLY OTHER ONE IN THE KITCHEN
AND AT THAT TIME,

BUT LAST NIGHT I SAW THE FIRE WAS STILL ON UNDER THE POT!
TO SUGAR THE OPAL, SOMEONE HAD STARTED IT COOKING AGAIN.

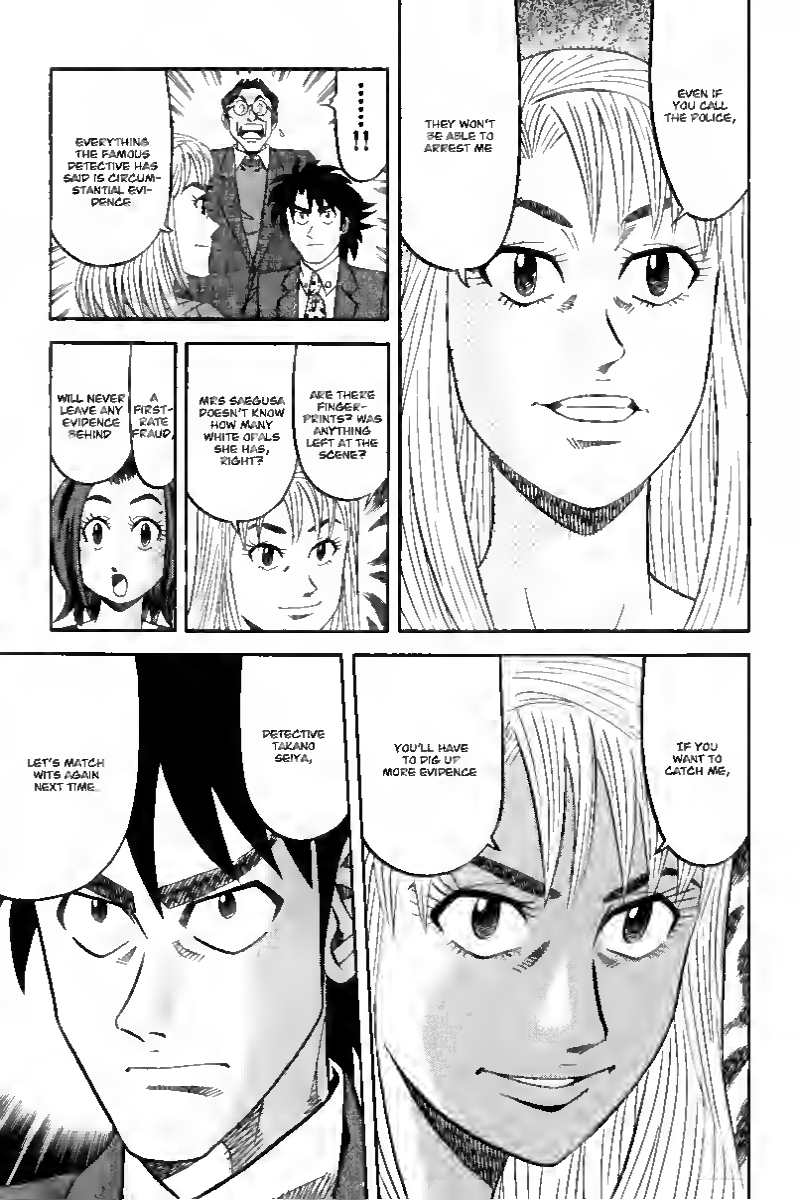

AND FINALLY,
THE DECISIVE PIECE OF EVIDENCE.

YOU HURRIEDLY STOPPED
THAT'S WHY WHEN I APPROACHED THE POT.



THIS WHITE OPAL,
IS SWEET!

CALL THE POLICE!
THE POLICE?


EVEN IF YOU CALL THE POLICE,
THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO ARREST ME
!!
EVERYTHING THE FAMOUS DETECTIVE HAS SAID IS CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE
ARE THERE FINGERPRINTS? WAS ANYTHING LEFT AT THE SCENE?
MR'S SAEGUSA DOESN'T KNOW HOW MANY WHITE OFALS SHE HAS, RIGHT?
A FIRST-RATE FRAUD,
WILL NEVER LEAVE ANY EVIDENCE BEHIND
IF YOU WANT TO CATCH ME,
YOU'LL HAVE TO DIG UP MORE EVIDENCE
DETECTIVE TAKANO SEIYA,
LET'S MATCH WITS AGAIN NEXT TIME.

MADAM,
ARE YOU REALLY JUST GOING TO LET THAT WOMAN LEAVE LIKE THAT?
I DON'T WANT THE POLICE TRAMPSING ALL OVER THIS PLACE EITHER.
AND AFTER ALL, I ONLY LOST A WHITE OPAL.
BUT TAKANO-SAN, HE
HE WON'T BE WILLING TO LET THE CRIMINAL OFF, SURELY.
TURN INTO UPON, AND MAKE ME RICH!
AH!
YOU IDIOT!
I'M HUNGRY!
HE'LL NEVER CHANGE...